

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## TRIBUTE TO UNITA BLACKWELL

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 3, 2003*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in commemoration of Black History Month, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the many accomplishments of distinguished African Americans in Mississippi's Second Congressional District.

Unita Blackwell, a living legend who went from picking cotton to a leadership role in the civil rights movement. She was elected Mayor of Mayersville, a small town in the Mississippi Delta. She is the first African American female mayor in the State.

The 68-year-old former activist grew up in the Delta region of the state at a time when conditions there were desperate. She came from a family of sharecroppers and picked cotton into adulthood.

The year that changed her life was 1964—Mississippi Freedom Summer. She joined forces with the freedom riders and with activists working for the Student Nonviolent Coordination Committee (SNCC). The objective was to register African Americans fully 36 percent of the State's population—to vote. She also participated in the struggle to desegregate the delegations that Mississippi sent to the Democratic National Convention.

The effort failed in 1964, but succeeded 4 years later after the national Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts was passed ending legally mandated segregation in the state and throughout the South. For the first time since Reconstruction, Mississippi sent an integrated delegation to the 1968 Democratic Convention. It was the crowning achievement of Mississippi Freedom Summer.

She is a past national president of the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association and has visited the country a number of times. "The same principles applies to international relations as to relations within countries. It's all about understanding and working together to forge solutions," she says. "Everyone—all over the world—has two eyes, a nose and a mouth; we should get along and treat each other right."

## TRIBUTE TO LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 3, 2003*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO, on 137 years of service to the State of Missouri. On January 30, the annual Founders' Day Celebration was held at Richardson Auditorium at the university.

Lincoln University was founded on January 14, 1866, by soldiers and officers of the 62nd

and the 65th Missouri Colored Infantry units. They gave a combined \$6,400 to establish the educational institution they named Lincoln Institute. The institute was founded with three stipulations: The institution shall be designed for the special benefit of the freed African Americans; it shall be located in the State of Missouri; and its fundamental idea shall be to combine study and labor.

In 1921, the Missouri Legislature passed a bill introduced by Walthall M. Moore, the first Black American to serve in that body, which changed the name from Lincoln Institute to Lincoln University and created a board of curators to govern the University.

Mr. Speaker, Lincoln University's annual Founders' Day Celebration is not only a celebration of another passing year's educational service but a chance once a year to remember the history of this great university. I applaud Lincoln University for its willingness to not forget the past and make sure its students know exactly how their university came to be. I know the Members of the House will join me in congratulating Lincoln University on 137 years of education excellence.

## IN HONOR OF THE LAND TRUST OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 3, 2003*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most loved and supported organizations in my congressional district. Last weekend the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County celebrated its 25-year anniversary, having begun when a small group of dedicated individuals decided in 1978 to help preserve open land.

The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County has worked cooperatively and collaboratively with a wide array of people, organizations, businesses and groups throughout this time to safeguard and protect over 1,250 acres. They have done this through direct purchases of land, donations of land, conservation easements and land management agreements. Mr. Speaker, as many people from my district and in this body are aware, I am a firm believer in the power of collaboration to achieve great ends, and I believe that the work of the Land Trust is one of the greatest examples of this power.

On Friday, February 21, the Land Trust held a benefit dinner to honor the work of those who were early pioneers in this effort. I was proud to join my colleague, ANNA ESHOO, as a member of the Honorary Host Committee, although we could not attend due to other obligations. At this event, several people were honored for their work, and I wish to do so here, as well. First, my good friend and former staff member Fred Keeley received special recognition for his achievements as a member of the California Assembly for the past 6

years; John and Patty Brissenden were two of the first organizers of this organization, and have remained active and committed since then; Ted and Pat Durkee helped found the Land Trust, and have also remained closely associated since its inception; Angie Christmann has been a dedicated volunteer since 1985; La Mina Smith, who accepted the recognition on behalf of the late Al Smith, a local businessman vital to the groups efforts; Diane Porter Cooley, who accepted on behalf of the late Bernice Porter and her donation of conservation easements for a large agriculture area; and the Cummings family, who accepted on behalf of the late Anna Jean Cummings, a cofounder of the Land Trust and its first Executive Director.

I applaud the efforts of the Land Trust and those who support their mission of protection and conservation of this county's greatest natural resources. Mr. Speaker, I hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating their anniversary, and wish them continued success in the next 25 years.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 3, 2003*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I had to travel to my congressional district for an important event on February 27, 2003. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall Nos. 37 and 38, and "no" on rollcall No. 39.

## TRIBUTE TO BEVERLY W. HOGAN

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 3, 2003*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, in commemoration of Black History Month, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the many accomplishments of distinguished African Americans in Mississippi's Second Congressional District.

Today I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Beverly W. Hogan. Mrs. Hogan is the current President of Tougaloo College. Mrs. Hogan has a bachelors of art degree in Psychology. Mrs. Hogan then received a Master's degree in public policy and administration from Jackson State University. She has done additional studies at the University of Southern Mississippi, University of Georgia and St. Mary College. Mrs. Hogan is presently pursuing a doctorate in organizational management and leadership at the University of Phoenix.

Before becoming President of Tougaloo College, Mrs. Hogan had twenty-five years of experience in executive management and leadership in which she has many accomplishments. In 1975, she established the first rape

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